from 3 million tonnes to 6.3 million tonnes with an investment of Rs. 8,692 crores by 2008-09, which would be financed from internal resources of RINL. Recently the Government has accorded its approval for this proposal.

Steel Development Fund

†2555. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the steel producing units had collected the amount of Steel Development Fund from the general consumers during past years;

(b) if so, the total amount collected in this regard; and

(c) the amount out of the above disbursed as loans to the steel producers and the names of these steel producers and the reasons for disbursing loans to these steel producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) The Government had imposed a development surcharge per tonne of certain categories of steel products w.e.f. 5.6.78 for creation of Steel Development Fund (SDF). The SDF levy was imposed on main steel producers who were required to collect the same from their customers and remit to Joint Plant Committee (JPC). The SDF levy was abolished on 21st April, 1994.

(b) The total amount of SDF levy collected by the main steel producers and remitted to the JPC is Rs. 4,589.48 crore.

(c) The corpus of SDF had grown over the years. Moreover, the loans upon becoming due for repayment are being recycled as fresh loans. As on date the total loans given to the main producers are as follows:—

Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)	:	Rs. 8444.16 crore
Tata Steel Ltd.		Rs. 2213.03 crore
Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)	:	Rs. 15.00 crore
Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. (IISCO)	:	Rs. 44.68 crore

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The SDF loans were disbursed to the main steel producers for the purpose of modernization, research and development, rehabilitation, diversification, renewals and replacement of their steel plants.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

12.00 NOON

Leakage of question paper of Group 'D' Recruitment Examination

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Recruitment Cell Group 'D' Examination has been cancelled in Northern Zone due to leakage of the question papers on Sunday i.e. 26th February, 2006;

(b) if so, the total number of candidates adversely affected;

(c) when this examination shall be held again; and

(d) the reasons for leakage of the question paper and who are responsible therefor and what action is being taken against them to prevent such leakages of question paper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU) (a) No, Sir. The examination has not been cancelled. The written examination was being conducted on three dates i.e. 12.2.2006, 26.2.2006 and 5.3.2006.

The first phase examination was successfully conducted in which 97,588 candidates appeared.

The second phase (out of three phases) of examination held on 26.2.2006 had to be cancelled due to leakage of question paper. The third phase of examination which was scheduled for 5.3.2006 had been deferred.

(b) 1,12,985 (One lakh twelve thousand nine hundred eighty five) candidates relating to second phase of examination who had appeared on 26.2.2006 were adversely affected.